IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-23 and add new claim 24 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling service provision for customer terminals, used by customers for receiving services, in a telecommunications network including ~~customer terminals (CT), used by customers for receiving services,~~ at least one server ~~(SP)~~ for offering services to the customers, and control means ~~(CU)~~ for controlling the provision of ~~the~~ services to ~~a~~ customers, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing ~~the~~ a service by transmitting information to the customer terminal,

- ~~making customer-specific payments for the service and sending~~ receiving information about ~~said~~ service-specific payments in ~~to~~ the control means from the customer terminal during delivery of the service,

~~c h a r a c t e r i z e d by~~

- informing the control means of the current price of the services,

- maintaining at least one control parameter whose value is dependent on ~~service price data and on payment data~~ at least accumulated charges for the service and accumulated sum of service-specific payments,

- comparing the value of ~~the~~ at least one of said at least one control parameter to a first threshold ~~(TT)~~, and

- stopping the provision of the service when the value of the control parameter has reached the first threshold.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claims 1, ~~characterized by maintaining~~ wherein at least two control parameters are maintained, said method comprising:

- determining at least one threshold for each control parameter, and

- stopping the service when the value of a certain control parameter exceeds a certain first threshold corresponding to that control parameter.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

comparing the value of one of said at least one control parameter to a second threshold ~~(NT)~~ and sending a notification to the customer terminal ~~(CT)~~ when the value of the control parameter reaches the second threshold.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said one control parameter is the control parameter whose value is used to stop the service, whereby said second threshold is smaller than said first threshold.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by using a~~ wherein at least one of said at least one control parameter ~~which~~ represents the debt incurred by the customer.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 4, ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

calculating the value of the control parameter after each service-specific payment,

comparing the control parameter to a third threshold, ~~(ADT)~~ and

sending a notification to the customer terminal when the value of the control parameter has reached said third threshold.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising using a control parameter which represents the amount of time that the customer has been in debt to the service provider.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by using a~~ wherein at least one of said at least one control parameter ~~which~~ represents the ratio of the duration during which the customer has been in debt to the service provider to the duration during which the customer has not been in debt to the service provider.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by maintaining~~ wherein a first and second control parameter are maintained, said method comprising:

- determining at least one threshold value for both control parameters so that one of the parameter-specific values represents a stop value, and

- stopping the service when the value of either control parameter reaches the stop value corresponding to it.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first control parameter represents the debt incurred by the customer and a second control parameter represents the amount of time that the customer has been in debt to the service provider.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by maintaining~~ wherein a first and second control parameter are maintained, said method comprising:

- determining a first threshold for the first control parameter and a second control threshold for the second control parameter,

- changing the first threshold value when the value of the second control parameter exceeds the second threshold value, and

- stopping the service when the value of the first control parameter reaches the first threshold value.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising changing the price of the service on the basis of the value of ~~a~~ one of said at least one control parameter.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 12, ~~characterized by~~ ~~changing~~ the price of the service is changed on the basis of the value of the control parameter which is used to stop the service.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising determining the value of ~~the~~ at least one of said at least one control parameter on the basis of the current service session only.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising storing data concerning the service session of the customer and using the data relating to at least one previous service session of the current customer when determining the value of at least one of said at least one ~~the~~ control parameter during the current service session.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising using timers to indicate when the value of ~~a~~ at least one of said at least one control parameter will reach a threshold value.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

- calculating the value of ~~the~~ at least one of said at least one control parameter periodically at predetermined moments of time,

- storing the changes in the service price, which occur between two consecutive moments, and the moments of time corresponding to each change, and

- using the stored information when calculating the value of ~~the~~ said at least one control parameter.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising calculating the value of ~~the~~ at least one of said at least one control parameter periodically and also when the price of the service changes and when a service-specific payment is received.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to patent claim 1 in a network where several information flows are transmitted to a customer, characterized by~~A method for controlling service provision for customer terminals, used by customers for receiving services, in a telecommunications network including at least one server for offering services to the customers, and control means for controlling the provision of services to customers, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing a service by transmitting a plurality of information flows to the customer terminal,

- receiving information about information-flow-specific payments in the control means from the customer terminal during delivery of the service,

- informing the control means of the current price of the information flows,

- maintaining ~~a control parameter and a threshold for each of the information flows~~ for each information flow at least one control parameter whose value is dependent on at least accumulated charges for the information flow and accumulated sum of information-flow-specific payments,

- comparing, for each information flow, the value of at least one of said at least one control parameter to an information-flow-specific threshold, and

- stopping said plurality of information flows if the control parameter value of at least one of the information flows reaches the threshold corresponding to it.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to patent claim 1 in a network where several information flows are transmitted to a customer, c h a r a c t e r i z e d by~~A method for controlling service provision for customer terminals, used by customers for receiving services, in a telecommunications network including at least one server for offering services to the customers, and control means for controlling the provision of services to customers, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing a service by transmitting a plurality of information flows to the customer terminal,

- receiving information about information-flow-specific payments in the control means from the customer terminal during delivery of the service,

- informing the control means of the current price of the information flows,

- maintaining ~~a control parameter and a threshold for each of the information flows~~ for each information flow at least one control parameter whose value is dependent on at least accumulated charges for the information flow and accumulated sum of information-flow-specific payments,

- comparing, for each information flow, the value of at least one of said at least one control parameter to an information-flow-specific threshold, and

- stopping only a single information flow when the control parameter value of said information flow reaches the corresponding threshold.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1 ~~in a network where~~, wherein the service comprises one information flow ~~is~~ transmitted to several customers, ~~characterized by~~ said method comprising:

- maintaining customer-specific thresholds,

- maintaining customer group-specific thresholds, and

- choosing the values of said thresholds so that the information flow to the customer can be stopped before the information flow to the entire customer group is stopped.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to patent claim 1 ~~in a network where~~, wherein the service comprises one information flow ~~is~~ transmitted to several customers, ~~c h a r a c t e r i z e d by~~ said method comprising:

storing data concerning the service session of a customer group and using the data relating to at least one previous service session of the current customer group when determining the value of the control parameter during the current service session.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling service provision to customer terminals, used by customers for receiving services, in a telecommunications network including ~~customer terminals (CT), used by customers for receiving services,~~ at least one server ~~(SP)~~ for offering services to the customer, and control means ~~(CU)~~ for controlling the provision of the service to a customer, the system comprising:

- first means ~~(SP)~~ for providing ~~the services~~ services by transmitting information to ~~the~~ customer ~~terminals~~ terminals,

- second means ~~(CT) for making customer-specific payments for the service and sending~~ for receiving information about ~~said~~ service-specific payments from customer terminals during delivery of services in ~~to~~ the control means,

~~c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the system further comprises~~

- third means ~~(SP)~~ for informing the control means of the current price of the service,

and ~~that~~ said control means ~~comprise~~ comprising

- first control means ~~(CHL)~~ for maintaining for a service at least one control parameter whose value is dependent on ~~service price data and on payment data~~ at least accumulated charges for the service and accumulated sum of service-specific payments ,

- comparison means ~~(CHL)~~ for comparing the value of a control parameter to a first predetermined threshold value ~~(TT)~~, and

- second control means ~~(CHL, CLU2)~~ for stopping the provision of the service when the value of the control parameter has reached the first threshold.

24. (New) A system according to patent claim 23, comprising a customer terminal configured to receive services, make service-specific payments for services and send information about said service-specific payments to the control means.